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AMERICAN

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A CATALOGUE FOR ADVANCED COLLECTORS

—OF—

POSTAGE STAMPS, STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

COMPILED FROM THE MOST RECENT AUTHORITIES AND INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

BY

HENRY COLLIN AND HENRY L. CALMAN.

(*Continued.*)

UNITED STATES.—Continued.

ENVELOPES.—Continued.

(By GEORGE L. TOPPAN.)

SIXTH TO ELEVENTH SERIES.—(Continued).

Dies.

DIE 74, FOUR CENTS, October 1883. Differing from die 73 only as follows: The figures of value at the sides are noticeably larger, measuring about 3¼ mm. at their widest part. The figures are both rounded where the cross and the downward-slanting strokes meet. The left point of the lower label does not stop at the lower line of the third loop below the oval, but cuts through it and fully half way through the loop itself. The left point of the upper label cuts only about half way through the fourth loop above the oval, and both points of the label are much nearer the centre of the loop than in die 73. There are 93 points in both the outer and inner circles, both being divided by the ovals containing the figures of value so that there are 47 points above and 46 below the ovals. Commonly known as "Die B."

There is a variety of this die which differs from it only in having a straight, white line starting from the lower lip and extending out and slightly upwards, towards the frame of the central oval. It varies slightly in length, but is very pronounced. It is commonly known as the "Cracked Die" and is more common than the regular die.

DIE 75. TWO CENTS, November, 1883. Quite different from die 72 and more like the four cents, die 73. Bust of Washington to left with frame of colorless outer and inner lines, ornamented with a pair of fine wavy lines inside each frame line. Colored labels with pointed ends, as in the four cents, outlined by a fine colorless line. Inscribed "U. S. POSTAGE" above, "TWO CENTS" below, both in colorless Roman capitals. Small oval with colorless numeral on each side. Ends of labels and ovals connected by two colorless lines crossed to form two and one-half diamonds: a half diamond next to the top of the left oval, and full diamond next the label; an imperfect diamond next to the bottom of the left oval and half diamond next the label; a full diamond next the label and a half diamond next the bottom of the right oval; a diamond next the top of the right oval and half a diamond next the label; a short waved line on each side of these from the labels to the ovals.

In the original dies and impressions, the lines are all clear, smooth and continuous, but so fine that there is a tendency in the ink to cover parts of the embossed work and to leave spots without color on the ground-work, particularly in the diamonds above the right hand oval. Collectors have called these *dotted dies*. While the majority of these specimens are probably due to defective

printing only, there are clear red impressions showing with great uniformity: *a*. A continuation of the left side of the right hand point of the upper label clear across the part diamonds. *b*. The right side of the same point continued in the same way. *c*. A small colorless cross with a dot at the intersection in one or more of the diamonds.

The later impressions are in brown and are more frequently blotched in appearance than the red impressions. Clear, strong impressions may be found in brown, also occasionally dotted dies. It may also be noticed that the left numeral is always rather larger than the right, and that specimens in both colors may be found in which the difference is apparently very marked, and some collectors have accordingly catalogued these separately."*

Dimensions 26 x 30 mm. The variations noted above being, in our opinion, due either to bad printing, worn dies, or the action of the ink on the fine lines. They are not considered worthy of inclusion in the list and will, therefore, be ignored.

DIE 76. TWO CENTS. June, 1884. Described by Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert as follows: "Same general design as die 68**, but the ornamental pair of wavy lines are no longer continuous and present a series of short arcs not always meeting and frequently the two rows of either pair touch and run into each other. One side of the impression is generally more changed than the other. The bust also seems to have been changed, sometimes appearing longer, at others wider than the original."† Commonly known as the "retouched die."

Twenty-one varieties of this die, due either to successive retouching, wear, or action of the ink on the plates, are described by Messrs. Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, of these three only are worthy of listing and they should be listed, not as varieties, but as separate dies. They are described as *varieties a, b, and c*, as follows:

DIE 77. TWO CENTS. June, 1884. Similar to die 76, but has only two diamonds, or links, between the right oval and the label below it.

DIE 78. TWO CENTS. June, 1884. Similar to die 76, from which it is distinguished by having three and one-half diamonds, or links, between the left oval and the label above it.

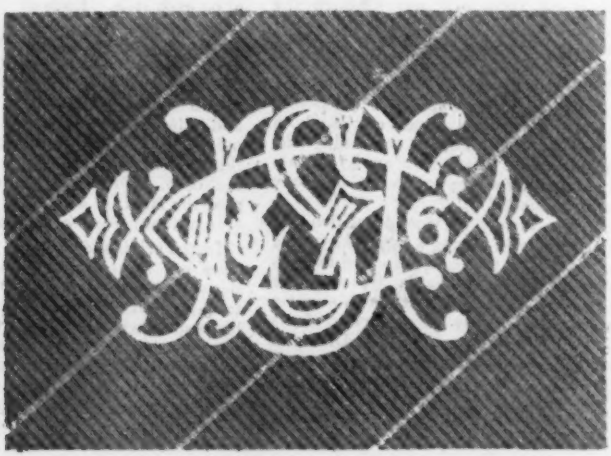
DIE 79. TWO CENTS. June, 1884. Similar to die 76, but has a very round "O" in "TWO." The lines over the letters "WO" run together.

DIE 80. TWO CENTS. July, 1884. Of the same general design as die 75. Dimensions 27½x31 mm. There is only one wavy line inside each border. Uniformly two and one half links between the ovals and the ends of the labels, the half link being always next to the oval. The lower end of the bust below the queue ends in a sharp point.

DIE 81. TWO CENTS. July, 1884. Similar to die 80. The extremity of the bust, below the queue is rounded, not pointed.

Watermarks.

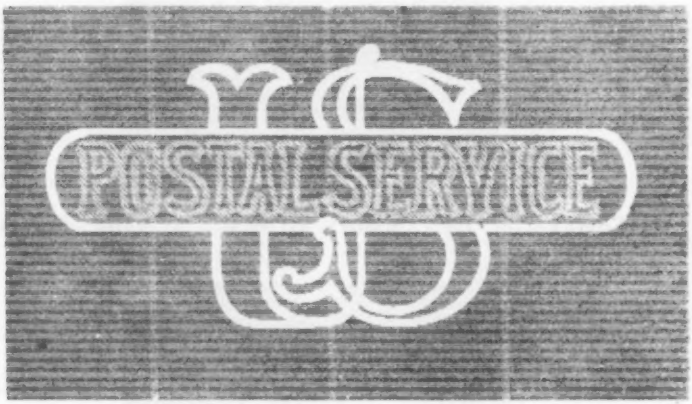
The watermarks used in these series are eight in numbers, i.e. B, C, D, E, F, H and M. Watermark B has been already described as B2 of the Reay issues, the others follow:



C

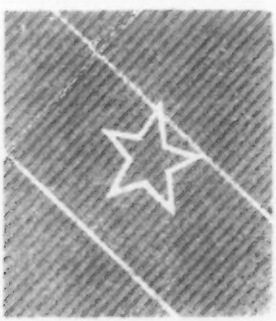
*T. B. and R., Pp. 26-27. **Our die 75. †P. 27.

WATERMARK C. 1876. This was intended for use only on the envelopes with the Centennial stamp, though the remainder of this paper was afterwards used in both the regular and the War Department issues. It consists of the letters "U. S. C.," in a fancy monogram measuring 38 mm. high by 68 mm. long, crossed by the figures "1876."



D

WATERMARK D. 1877. Specially issued for the Post Office envelopes, but also used for some of the general issues and those of the War Department. It consists of a monogram of the letters "U. S." measuring 40 mm. high by 38 mm. wide. This is crossed by an outlined rectangular label, with rounded ends, measuring 85 mm. long by 15 mm. wide, inscribed "POSTAL SERVICE."



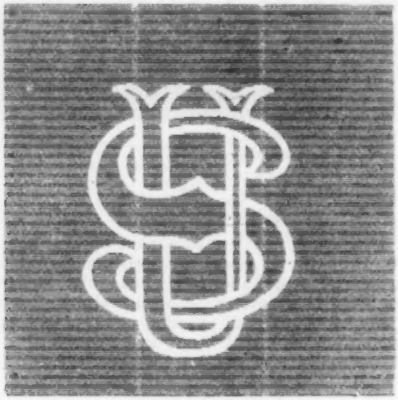
E

WATERMARK E. 1878. A small star added to watermark B. The star being inserted between the rows of the old watermark.



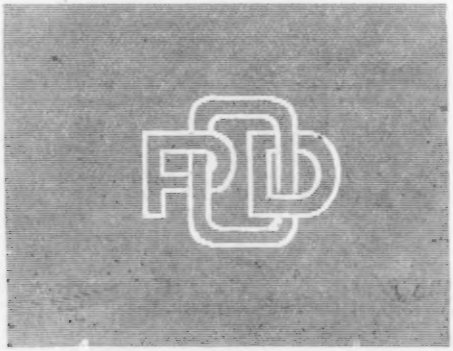
F

WATERMARK F. 1882. Similar to last but with the figures "82" inserted instead of the star.



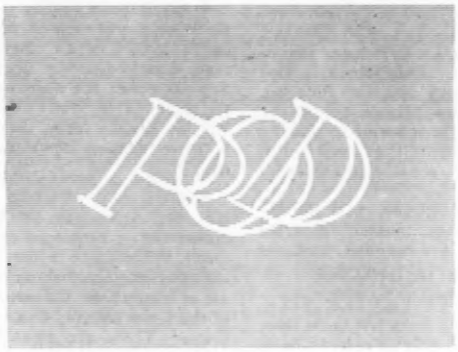
G

WATERMARK G. 1886. A monogram of the letters "U. S.," the "U." being 39 and the "S." being 30 mm. high. The "S" crosses both strokes of the "U."



H

WATERMARK H. ? This is a watermark intended only for use on the unstamped franked envelopes of the Post Office Dep't., commonly known as "penalty envelopes." It is found on a few envelopes of the regular issues, most of which are marked "Specimen." "Bidder's Sample" or both. It consists of the letters "P. D." in outline block capitals 14 mm. high and linked together by a large outlined "O," 19 mm. high. The whole monogram measures 25 mm. in width.



M

WATERMARK M.? Consists of the letters "P. O. D.," in slanting Roman capitals, so interwoven as to form a monogram, about 19 mm. high by 32 mm. wide.

Knives.

The knives found in these series are twenty-two in number, from number 34 to 56 inclusive, with the exception of number 35. Nos. 34 and 36 have been already described, the others are :

KNIFE 37. NOTE SIZE. No. 1. 1874. This should form an envelope measuring 5 4-16 x 2 12-16 inches, 133 x 70 mm. It closely resembles knife 24 (Reay.) The point of the right flap, however, turns more gradually into the upper and more abruptly into the lower edge. The end of the left flap is squarer and turns into the lower edge. Some specimens show a slightly rounded upper point of the lower flap.

KNIFE 38. ORDINARY LETTER SIZE, No. 2. 1874. This should form an envelope measuring 5 3-16 x 3 1-16 inches, 131 x 77 mm. "While it is much like the Reay knife 22 (our 27), the loose flap is not as broad, the side flaps are cut a little lower and bend into the concave more abruptly above, and the end of the right flap has larger curves at the corners, while the left flap is fully 3 mm. longer and much squarer * * * at the point."*

KNIFE 39. FULL LETTER SIZE, No 3, 1874. This should form an envelope measuring 5 8-16 x 3 6-16 inches, 139 x 85 mm. "The loose flap is tongued, and the end small. It measures 44 or 45 mm. from the tip to the top fold of the envelope, and the curves at the corners are much flatter than the Reay knives of this size. The upper point of the bottom flap presents three varieties: (*a*) sharp, (*b*) slightly rounded, (*c*) decidedly rounded. The curves of the upper edges of the side flaps into the concave curves are longer and more marked than in the Reay shapes, and the ends of the side flaps are well rounded into the upper and lower edges."**

KNIFE 40. FULL LETTER SIZE, No. 3, 1874. Similar to last and of same size. "The marked difference is that the concave curve of the right flap meets the vertical straight end in a nearly square point, while the corresponding point of the left flap, though slightly rounded, is less so than knife 33 (our 39). The upper point of the lower flap is of the sharp form."**

KNIFE 41. FULL LETTER SIZE. No. 3. 1874. This should form an envelope measuring 5 8-16 x 3 6-16 inches. 139x85 mm. "It is easily distinguished from knives 33 and 34 (our 39 and 40), as the loose flap measures only 41 mm. from the tip to the upper fold of the envelope, and the curves are bolder at the corners and the point broader. The envelope is a little (about 2 mm.) lower cut than knife 33 (our 39), and the ends of the side flaps are rather narrower though well rounded into the edges.

There are three differently cut points of the lower flap," ** as in knife 39.

*Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, p. 14.

**Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, P. 15.

KNIFE 42. EXTRA LETTER SIZE. No. 5. 1874. This should form an envelope measuring 6 6-16 x 3 8-16 inches, 161x89 mm. The loose flap measures 50 mm. from its tip to the upper fold of the envelope, and is almost identical in shape with Reay knife 32. "The lower flap also has the sharp upper point. The right side flap is, however, about 3 mm. longer and a little more rounded into the concave curve, which is also longer than that of Reay knife 27 (our 32), beginning about the same distance from the upper right corner of the envelope, making the point of the flap about the same width, but the entire flap about 3 mm. broader throughout.

The left flap is also broader, with the upper point of its end less rounded, and the end straighter and less rounded into the lower edge than knife 27." † (our 32).

KNIFE 43 EXTRA LETTER SIZE. No. 5. 1874. Differing from last in its loose flap, which measures only 45 mm. from its tip to the upper fold of the envelope. The lower flap usually has a sharp point, though it is sometimes slightly rounded. Side flaps have rounder ends, while their upper ends round more sharply into the concave curves.

KNIFE 44. COMMERCIAL SIZE, No. 4½, 1875. This should form an envelope measuring 5 14-16 x 3 6-16 inches, 149 x 85 mm. The loose flap has long flat corner curves and is tongued. The upper edges of the side flaps round sharply into the concave curves, while the ends, which are nearly straight, also round sharply into the bottom edges. The point of the lower flap is decidedly round, and the envelope is lower cut than the others of the series.

KNIFE 45. COMMERCIAL SIZE, No. 4½. 1877. This is of the same size and general outline as knife 44. "The distinguishing feature is the sharp point of the lower flap, though the ends of the side flaps are somewhat narrower, and the end of the round* flap rounds less into the upper and lower edges while the end of the left flap begins to curve into the lower edge very near its upper point."†

KNIFE 46. NOTE SIZE, No. 1. 1878. This should form an envelope measuring 5 4-16 x 2 13-16 inches, 133 x 71 mm. The loose flap, which is tongued, is about 3 mm. shorter than knife 37, and the bottom flap has a much rounder point. The side flaps being cut much lower, are narrower at the points. The point where these side flaps cross is 4 mm. further from the top fold than in knife 37.

†Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, p. 15.

*Should be *right*.

KNIFE 47. ORDINARY LETTER, Size 2. 1878. Should form an envelope measuring 5 8-16 x 3 1-16 inches, 139 x 78 mm. "The lower flap is rounded at the point in at least two different curves, *a* and *b*; the side flaps are much lower cut than * * * Plimpton 32 (our 38). There are two varieties also of each of the side flaps, much easier to see when attention is called to them than to describe or draw. The right flap has either the rounded form shown in the plate, or is flatter and less round. The left flap has the form shown in the plate, or is more slanted down to the left at the end."*

KNIFE 48. FULL LETTER SIZE. No. 3. 1878. Should form an envelope measuring 5 8-16 x 3 4-16 inches, 139x82 mm. "The knife is low cut, the flaps crossing about 20 mm. below the top fold. There are at least three differently curved points of the lower flap, *a*, *b* and *c*, as shown in the plate. There are numerous variations in the right flap, the general forms of which are illustrated, as *d*, *e*, *f* and *g*, and similar variations in the left flap, the most prominent illustrated, as *h*, *i* and *j*. These exist in numerous combinations, the earliest being that illustrated, *a*, *d* and *h*, but the combination, *b*, *e* and *h*, is also found with the old watermark."* It measures 42 mm. from the point of the upper flap to the top fold of the envelope.

KNIFE 49. COMMERCIAL SIZE. No. 4½. 1878. "Folds into an envelope 5 14-16 by 3 6-16 inches,†***. This is also a lower cut than knives 38 or 39 (our knives 44 and 45), though the difference is not in the distance of the point where the flaps meet, but in the much longer thumb-curve, as it is called. There are again three different curves of the point of the lower flap, *a*, *b* and *c*, and several each of the side flaps. The earliest form of the right flap is illustrated in *d*, nearly straight on the end, with a very gradual thumb-curve. The most marked variation from this is the form *f*, from which there seems to have been a return to the form *d*, with a still flatter end and sharper turn into the thumb-curve. The left flap is generally like *e*, but occasionally like *g*."††

KNIFE 50. EXTRA LETTER SIZE. No. 5. 1878. This should form an envelope measuring 6 5-16x3 8-16 inches, 160x89 mm. "The point of the upper or loose flap, is small. There are at least three different curves of the lower flap, *a*, *b* and *c*. The right flap shows at least two marked varia-

*Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, P. 15.

†149x85 mm.

††Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, Pp. 15-16.

tions *d* and *e*, from which there are several minor variations. The left flap appears in two quite noticeable forms, *f* being quite round and *g* nearly flat on the end and much slanted back to the left. From this there are several minor variations***."*

KNIFE 51. OFFICIAL SIZE. No. 7. 1878. Should form an envelope measuring 8 14-16x3 14-16 inches, 225x98 mm. "The loose flap is perhaps, a little more pointed than that of knife 29 (our 34), but of the same general form. The upper edges of the side flaps are brought down at a greater angle with the top fold, and the points of the side flaps are thereby made smaller. They are, also, further from the side folds, being about 84 mm. from them, while those of knife 29 (our 34) are about 75 mm. from the side folds. The curves in the diagonal edges of the bottom fold*** are beaten out, and these edges are now straight. The top of the lower flap is also some 28 mm. shorter in the new knife than in the old."*

The lower flap is folded over the side flaps.

KNIFE 52. EXTRA OFFICIAL SIZE, No. 8. 1878. This should form an envelope measuring 10 3-16 x 4 6-16 inches, 257 x 111 mm. "The same changes in form were made for this knife as for knife 45 (our 51). They are more apparent because the points of the side flaps are very much smaller than in the old knife, and the flaps are about 6 mm. shorter. The lower flap is 10 mm. shorter across the top."* The side flaps fold over the lower flap.

KNIFE 53. COMMERCIAL NOTE SIZE, No. 2. 1886. This should form an envelope measuring 5 2-16 x 3 3-16 inches, 130 x 80 mm. "The peculiar feature of this knife is, that while the side flaps are much the same in form as the majority of the Reay and Plimpton knives, the loose and bottom flaps have sharp points and are bounded by two short and two long straight lines, instead of by curves."*

KNIFE 54. SMALL BARONIAL SIZE No. 10. 1876. This should form an envelope measuring 4 10-16 x 3 9-16 inches, 117 x 90 mm. "It has the same peculiar construction as knife 47 (our 53), but is wider in proportion and the point of the lower flap is rounded instead of sharp."*

KNIFE 55. LARGE BARONIAL SIZE. No. 11. 1886. This should form an envelope measuring 5 2-16 x 4 2-16 inches, 130x105 mm. It is of the same general shape as knife 54.

KNIFE 56. LEGAL SIZE. No. 9. 1886. This should form an envelope measuring 6 12-16 x 3 12-16 inches, 172x95 mm. The loose flap is tongued; the lower one rounds into the lower corners and has the rounded point. The ends of the side flaps are nearly straight, round well into the top and bottom curves, and the flaps themselves are long. The depression of the thumb-curve is not so great as in most of the other shapes.

*Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, p. 16.

Paper.

Five new papers were introduced in this series, viz: Fawn, in 1875; Blue, in the same year; Creamy white, in 1882; and Oriental Buff and Amber Manila in 1886.

The blue and fawn, particularly the latter, vary greatly in shade and the Oriental Buff is, in reality, only another name for the cream paper in use from 1870 to 1886.

*Tiffany, Bogert & Rechert, p. 16.

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1874. Oct. to Dec.		**One cent, dark blue.**		**One Die.**		**Five Knives.**		
4325	(302)	46	White	38	2	B	S	
4326	(303)	46	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4327	(304)	46	Cream	38	2	B	S	
4328	(305)	46	Orange	39	4	B	U	
4329	(306)	46	Orange	41	4	B	U	Centennial only
4330	(307)	46	Orange	42	5	B	S	
4331	(308)	46	Orange	42	6	B	U	
4332	(309)	46	Orange	43	6	B	U	Centennial only
4333	(310)	46	Orange	41	4	B	U	Re-issue '77. Lt blue
1874. Oct. to Dec.		**Two cents, brown.**		**One Die.**		**Four Knives.**		
4334	(311)	47	White	38	2	B	S	
4335	(312)	47	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4336	(313)	47	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4337	(314)	47	Cream	38	2	B	S	
4338	(315)	47	Orange	41	4	B	U	Centennial only
4339	(316)	47	Orange	43	6	B	U	Centennial only

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1874. Oct. to Dec.		**Three cents, green.**		**One Die.**		**Seven Knives.**		
4340	(317)	48	White	37	1	B	S	
4341	(318)	48	White	38	2	B	S	
4342	(319)	48	White	39	3	B	S	
4343	(320)	48	White	41	3	B	S	
4344	(321)	48	White	42	5	B	S	
4345	(322)	48	Amber	37	1	B	S	
4346	(323)	48	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4347	(323a)	48	Amber	38	2	B	U	Specimen
4348	(324)	48	Amber	38	2	None	S	Laid paper
4349	(325)	48	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4350	(326)	48	Amber	40	3	B	S	
4351	(327)	48	Amber	41	3	B	S	
4352	(328)	48	Amber	42	5	B	S	
4353	(328a)	48	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4354	(329)	48	Amber 3rd qual.	38	2	B	S	
4355	(330)	48	Amber 3rd qual.	39	3	B	S	
4356	(331)	48	Amber 3rd qual.	41	3	B	S	
4357	(332)	48	Cream	38	2	B	S	
4358	(332a)	48	Cream	38	2	B	S	Albino
4359	(332b)	48	Cream	38	2	B	S	Mis-strike*
4360	(333)	48	Cream	39	3	B	S	
4361	(334)	48	Cream	40	3	B	S	
4362	(335)	48	Cream	41	3	B	S	
4363	(336)	48	Cream	42	5	B	S	
4364	(337)	48	Cream	34	7	B	S	
1874. Oct. to Dec.		**Ten cents, brown.**		**One Die.**		**Two Knives.**		
4365	(338)	49	White	39	3	B	S	
4366	(339)	49	White	41	3	B	S	
4367	(340)	49	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4368	(341)	49	Amber	41	3	B	S	
Nov. 1874 to July 1875.		**One cent, dark blue.**		**One Die.**		**Five Knives.**		
4369	(342)	50	White	38	2	B	S	
4370	(343)	50	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4371	(344)	50	Orange	39	4	B	U	
4372	(345)	50	Orange	41	4	B	U	
4373	(346)	50	Orange	42	6	B	U	
4374	(347)	50	Orange	43	6	B	U	
After July 1875.		**One cent, light blue.**		**One Die.**		**Three Knives.**		
4375	(348)	50	White	38	2	B	S	
4376	(349)	50	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4377	(350)	50	Orange	41	4	B	U	
4378	(350a)	50	Orange	41	4	B	U	Albino
4379	(351)	50	Orange	43	6	B	U	
4380	(351a)	50	Orange	43	6	B	U	Albino
1874, Nov. to Dec.		**Two cents, brown.**		**One Die.**		**One Knife.**		
4381	(352)	51	White	38	2	B	S	
4382	(352c)	51	White	38	2	B	S	
4383	(353)	51	Amber	38	2	B	S	
1874.		**Two cents, brown.**		**One Die.**		**One Knife.**		
4384	(352a)	52	White	38	2	B	S	
4385	(353a)	52	Amber	38	2	B	S	
1874.		**Two cents, brown.**		**One Die.**		**Three Knives.**		
4386	(352b)	53	White	38	2	B	S	
4387	(353b)	53	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4388	(354)	53	Orange	41	4	B	U	
4389	(355)	53	Orange	43	6	B	U	

*Albino impression a litt'e too far to the right. Extra impression, colored, on inside of the left flap.

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1874. Nov.		**Three cents, green.**		**One Die.**		**Nine Knives.**		
4390	(356)	54	White	37	1	B	S	
4391	(357)	54	White	38	2	B	S	
4392	(358)	54	White	39	3	B	S	
4393	(359)	54	White	41	3	B	S	
4394	(360)	54	White	44	4½	B	S	After July 1875, only
4395	(361)	54	White	42	5	B	S	
4396	(362)	54	White	43	5	B	S	
4397	(362a)	54	White	43	5	B	S	Albino
4398	(363)	54	Amber	37	1	B	S	
4399	(364)	54	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4400	(365)	54	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4401	(366)	54	Amber	41	3	B	S	
4402	(367)	54	Amber	41	3	None	S	Laid paper
4403	(368)	54	Amber	38	4½	B	S	After July 1875, only
4404	(368a)	54	Amber	42	5	B	S	
4405	(369)	54	Amber	43	5	B	S	
4406	(370)	54	Amber 3rd qual.	38	2	B	S	
4407	(371)	54	Amber 3rd qual.	41	3	B	S	
4408	(372)	54	Amber 3rd qual.	43	5	B	S	
4409	(373)	54	Cream	38	2	B	S	
4410	(374)	54	Cream	39	3	B	S	
4411	(375)	54	Cream	40	3	B	S	
4412	(376)	54	Cream	41	3	B	S	
4413	(377)	54	Cream	41	3	None	S	Laid paper
4414	(378)	54	Cream	44	4½	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4415	(379)	54	Cream	42	5	B	S	
4416	(380)	54	Cream	43	5	B	S	
4417	(381)	54	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4418	(382)	54	Fawn	44	4½	B	S	Fall of 1875 only
4419	(383)	54	Fawn	34	7	B	S	Fall of 1875 only
4420	(384)	54	Blue	38	2	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4421	(385)	54	Blue	41	3	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4422	(386)	54	Blue	44	4½	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4423	(387)	54	Blue	43	5	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4424	(387a)	54	Blue	43	5	B	U	After July, 1875, only
1874. Nov.		**Six cents, red.**		**One Die.**		**Six Knives.**		
4425	(388)	55	White	39	3	B	S	
4426	(389)	55	White	44	4½	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4427	(390)	55	White	42	5	B	S	
4428	(391)	55	White	43	5	B	S	
4429	(392)	55	White	34	7	B	S	
4430	(393)	55	White	36	8	B	S	
4431	(394)	55	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4432	(395)	55	Amber	44	4½	B	S	After July, 1875, only
4433	(396)	55	Amber	42	5	B	S	
4434	(397)	55	Amber	43	5	B	S	
4435	(398)	55	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4436	(399)	55	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4437	(400)	55	Amber	36	8	None	S	'77. Very fine laid lines
4438	(401)	55	Amber 3rd qual.	39	3	B	S	
4439	(402)	55	Cream	39	3	B	S	
4440	(403)	55	Cream	44	4½	B	S	After July 1875, only
4441	(404)	55	Cream	42	5	B	S	
4442	(405)	55	Cream	43	5	B	S	
4443	(406)	55	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4444	(407)	55	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
Nov. 1874 to July 1875.		**Seven cents, vermilion.**		**One Die.**		**Two Knives.**		
4445	(408)	56	White	39	3	B	S	Probably specimen
4446	(409)	56	Amber	39	3	B	S	
4447	(410)	56	Amber 3rd qual.	41	3	B	S	

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
Nov. 1874 to July 1875. Twelve cents, purple. One Die. Two Knives.								
4448	(411)	57	White	34	7	B	S	
4449	(412)	57	White	36	8	B	S	
4450	(413)	57	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4451	(414)	57	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4452	(415)	57	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4453	(416)	57	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
1874, Nov. Fifteen cents, orange. One Die. Two Knives.								
4454	(417)	58	White	34	7	B	S	
4455	(418)	58	White	36	8	B	S	
4456	(419)	58	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4457	(420)	58	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4458	(421)	58	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4459	(422)	58	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
Nov. 1874 to July 1875. Twenty-four cents, bright purple. One Die. Two Knives.								
4460	(423)	59	White	34	7	B	S	
4461	(424)	59	White	36	8	B	S	
4462	(425)	59	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4463	(426)	59	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4464	(427)	59	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4465	(428)	59	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
1874, Nov. Thirty cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.								
4466	(429)	60	White	34	7	B	S	
4467	(430)	60	White	36	8	B	S	
4468	(431)	60	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4469	(432)	60	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4470	(433)	60	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4471	(434)	60	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
1875, Jan. Ninety cents, carmine. One Die. Two Knives.								
4472	(435)	66	White	34	7	B	S	
4473	(436)	66	White	36	8	B	S	
4474	(437)	66	Amber	34	7	B	S	
4475	(438)	66	Amber	36	8	B	S	
4476	(439)	66	Cream	34	7	B	S	
4477	(440)	66	Cream	36	8	B	S	Centennial only
1875, Jan. to July. Two cent, brown. One Die. Three Knives.								
4478	(441)	61	White	38	2	B	S	
4479	(442)	61	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4480	(442a)	61	Amber	38	2	B	S	Albino.
4481	(443)	61	Orange	41	4	B	U	Centennial only
4482	(444)	61	Orange	43	6	B	U	Centennial only
1875, July. Two cents, vermilion. One Die. Two Knives.								
4483	(445)	61	White	38	2	B	S	
4484	(446)	61	Amber	38	2	B	S	
4485	(446a)	61	Amber	38	2	B	S	Die Var. B. Large nose
4486	(447)	61	Cream	44	4½	B	S	
4487	(447a)	61	Cream	44	4½	B	S	Die Var. B. Large nose
4488	(448)	61	Fawn	44	4½	B	S	

Comparative list of knives used in this catalogue and in that of the National Philatelic Society :

Our Numbers.	N. P. S.	Our Numbers.	N. P. S.
37	31	42	36
38	32	43	37
39	33	44	38
40	34	45	39
41	35		

Note.—The author will be obliged if collectors will call his attention to any inaccuracies in this list of envelopes; and also for information regarding varieties not known to him. The privilege of personally examining the specimens will also be appreciated.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES.

By John N. Luff.

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(*Continued from page* 320.)

Issue of 1894-95.

Though the government had long manufactured its own fiscal stamps at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in Washington, the postal issues had always, prior to July 1st, 1894, been supplied by private firms, under contracts with the Post Office department. But at the date mentioned a departure was made from this long-established method. On this subject we quote from the report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, dated Oct. 31st, 1894:

"I think it proper to give here a detailed account of the matters connected with the termination of the old contract with the American Bank Note Company for furnishing postage stamps, and the making of a new arrangement therefor with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

By advertisement, dated the 16th of October, 1893, published in a number of prominent newspapers for four weeks, the Department invited proposals up to the 15th of November, 1893, "from parties carrying on the business of steel-plate engraving and plate printing," or from those who had "had experience in conducting that business," for furnishing adhesive postage stamps of the several classes in use during the period of four years, beginning on the 1st of July, 1894, it having been formally arranged by the late Postmaster-General that the existing stamp contract with the American Bank Note Company should, by an extension of three months from the date fixed in it for its termination, and by the purchase of an extra supply of stamps sufficient for the wants of post-offices for three months threafter, be carried up to June 30, 1894, the end of the fiscal year.

Under the call thus made three proposals were received, the amount of each, based upon the process of printing them in vogue and upon the number of stamps issued during the fiscal year 1893, being as follows:

Hamilton Bank Note Company, of New York	$179,294.40
American Bank Note Company, of New York	162,401.61
Charles F. Steel, of Philadelphia	146.454.93

As soon as these bids were made known, the American Bank Note Company, for various reasons, strenuously protested against an award of the contract to Mr. Steel, the lowest bidder, and he in a similar way entered a protest against the giving of the contract to the American Bank Note Company. Subsequently these protests were formally presented in writing, and oral and written arguments were thereafter made from time to time up to the 21st of February, 1894.

In the meantime, on the 20th of November, 1893, the Chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, claiming the right to compete for the work under a clause in the official specifications issued to bidders, submitted a formal estimate, amounting, upon the basis above stated, to $139.487.74, and thereupon urged—his estimate being lower than any of the bids submitted—that the Bureau be awarded the contract.

For various reasons—the two prominent being the convenience of having the work done at Washington, where nearly all the other securities of the Government are printed, and the saving to be secured in the cost of manufacture—the claim of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was recognized on the 21st of February, 1894, by Departmental Order No. 18 of that date, awarding it the work, and by a formal agreement, entered into June 9, 1894, between the Post-Office and Treasury Departments, prescribing rules for the transaction of all business relating to the matter. Copies of these papers will be found appended to this report, marked No. 18.

Under the agreement thus entered into, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing is now

regularly engaged in manufacturing all the postage stamps needed by the Post-Office Department, and is daily issuing them for the use of postmasters throughout the country, the same as was formerly done when the contract with the American Bank Note Company was in force.

In entering upon the work under this new arrangement, a great many difficulties were necessarily encountered. A large number of printing machines had to be fitted up by the Bureau, perforating and gumming machines had to be secured, a considerable force of employes had to be trained to do the work promptly, large numbers of new plates for printing were needed, arrangements for storing and shipping the enormous number of stamps constantly required had to be made, to say nothing of many details entering into the intercourse between the two Departments in the transaction of their respective shares of this business. But I am happy to say that everything has been satisfactorily arranged, and the work is now proceeding without serious interruptions.

Some weeks prior to the 1st of July, 1894, when the arrangement above described went into effect, it became necessary to transfer from the custody of the American Bank Note Company in New York to that of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in this city the entire stock of stamps not required for issue up to the date mentioned, the object being to avoid any break in the continuity of supplies to postmasters, and to that end to furnish the Bureau with a working stock while its own preparations for manufacture were still in a more or less incomplete state.

Accordingly, under detailed directions given by this office, enough stamps to fill all orders up to the 1st of July were segregated from the general stock, and the remainder were shipped here by registered mail and placed in the vault of the Bureau.

The transfer was affected expeditiously, without loss and without expense (the stamps being transported as free mail matter), except the cost of cartage from the railroad station in this city to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, amounting to not over $50; so that on the 30th of June everything at New York was cleared up and the business of making and issuing stamps ended, and on the following day the work was going on here, with but little change of methods and with no material impediments.

The number of stamps of all kinds thus transferred amounted to nearly six hundred and forty-five million, of the face value of over $17,000,000.

All the dies, rolls, and working plates of postage stamps, of present and past series, were transferred at the same time, and are now in the custody of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

The stock of ordinary stamps of the manufacture of the American Bank Note Company thus transferred have been issued by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, according to denominations, up to the following dates, since which issues have been made from the Bureau's own manufacture:

1 cent	Oct, 10, 1894
2 cents	Oct. 5, 1894
3 cents	Sept. 24, 1894
4 cents	Sept. 11, 1894
5 cents	Sept. 28, 1894
6 cents	July 18, 1894
10 cents	Sept. 17, 1894
15 cents	Oct. 15, 1894
30 cents (discontinued)	Oct. 31, 1894
90 cents (discontinued)	Oct. 31, 1894

A large quantity of 8 cent stamps of the manufacture of the American Bank Note Company is still on hand.

After the awarding of the contract to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing it was decided not to alter the general design of the stamps then in use but to add to them a mark by which they might be distinguished from those made by the previous contractors. The mark adopted was a small double-lined triangle, placed in each upper corner. Each triangle has the top and outer side parallel to the adjacent top and side of the stamp and the inner side slightly curved to correspond to the curve of the medallion. Within the inner triangle there is a small colored dot at the middle of each of the three sides.

There are three varieties of the triangle :

Type I. The horizontal lines of the backgroued are of equal thickness within and without the triangle.

Type II. The lines are thinner within the triangle than without.

Type III. The space between the double lines of the triangle is blank and the lines in the inner triangle are thin.

At first all values had the triangle of type I, afterwards type II and III were used on the two cent stamps. A die of the three cents with triangle III was also made but it has not yet been put into use. The other values remain as at first. Plate 170 of the two cents presents an interesting variety. The first three vertical rows at the left side of the upper left quarter are of type II, the balance of the plate is of type III.

Concurrently with the placing of the new contract it was decided to abandon the denominations of thirty and ninety cents and substitute for them those of fifty cents and one dollar and to add to the series stamps of two and five dollars, for which denominations there were some demand at the larger post offices. These four new values are officially described as follows :

FIFTY CENTS.—Head of Thomas Jefferson, same as the head on ths old 30-cent stamp. Color, orange.

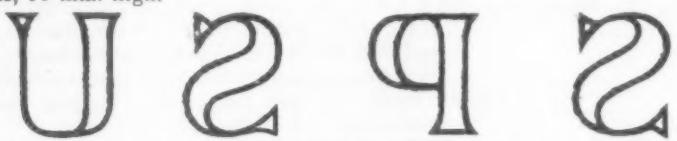
ONE DOLLAR.—Head of Commodore O. H. Perry, same as the head on the old 90-cent stamp. Color, black.

TWO DOLLARS —Head of James Madison, after the portrait by Gilbert Stuart. Color, sapphire blue.

FIVE DOLLARS.—Head of John Marshall, after the portrait by Inman. Color, gray green.

The stamps are of the same size as those of the issue of 1890, 19x22 mm.

At first a soft, porous, wove paper was used, similar in quality to that employed by the American Bank Note Co., though not showing as coarse a "weave." Afterwards other varieties appeared. In 1895 an attempt was made to counterfeit the two cent stamps and, as a check upon such frauds, a watermark was introduced into the paper. This watermark consists of the letters "U. S. P. S," (United States Postal Service) in double lined Roman capitals, 16 mm. high.



On each quarter sheet of one hundred stamps there are ten horizontal rows of nine letters each, so arranged as to read in regular order either upward, downward, to right or to left, from any starting point ; thus :

U S P S U S P S U
S P S U S P S U S
P S U S P S U S P
S U S P S U S P S
U S P S U S P S U
S P S U S P S U S
P S U S P S U S P
S U S P S U S P S
U S P S U S P S U
S P S U S P S U S

When the watermark was first used it was so faint that it was often difficult to discover any trace of it and, as a preventive of forgeries, it was of little or no value. But in the course of time it was improved and is now more distinct, though it is still inferior to most of the watermarks used in other countries. A smaller device and harder paper would probably give much better results.

A number of stamps have been found which have distinctly laid lines in the paper, in addition to the watermark. The one and two cent stamps are also known on double paper, similar to that used by the Continental Bank Note Co. This paper is watermarked. These varieties are probably due to some accident or variation in manufacture rather than to any intentional change in the paper. A copy of the five cents without watermark has been seen on paper ribbed with fine horizontal and vertical lines (the latter being slightly more pronounced) and having the effect of coarsely woven linen cloth. These lines are sufficiently raised to produce distinct vertical ridges in the printing ink on the face and to have taken up, on the back, some ink from the sheet which lay below it after printing. It has been suggested that in the course of manufacture the paper pulp was left standing on the cloth carrier until the impression of the fibres was transferred to it.

Several values of this series have also been reported on bluish chemical paper but, on all copies seen by the author, it was very evident that the discoloration was due either to accident or an attempt to deceive.

The gum varies from white to yellow. The perforation is the regulation 12.

The following shades and varieties are found :

Perforated 12.

Without Watermark.

Porous White Wove Paper,

Oct. 10th, 1894.	1 cent pale ultramarine, ultramarine, deep ultramarine, gray-blue, pale dull blue, dull blue, deep dull blue, dark blue
Oct. 5th, 1894.	2 cents (type I) pale pink, pink, aniline-rose, rose, deep rose, carmine-rose, dull lilac-rose, lilac-rose, salmon-red, red, scarlet, brown-red, rose-carmine, carmine, violet-carmine, carmine-lake, lake, crimson
	2 cents (type II) rose-red, rose, aniline rose, rose-vermilion
	2 cents (type III) rose, rose-vermilion
Sept. 24th, 1894.	3 cents dull purple, purple, deep purple
Sept. 11th, 1894.	4 cents dark yellow-brown, gray-brown, black-brown
Sept. 28th, 1894.	5 cents yellow-brown, orange-brown, dark orange-brown, red-brown
July 18th, 1894.	6 cents claret, claret-brown
Mch. 25th, 1895.	8 cents brown-violet, plum
Sept. 17th, 1894.	10 cents dark green, blue-green, dark blue-green
Oct. 15th, 1894.	15 cents indigo, dark indigo
Nov. 1st, 1884.	50 cents yellow-orange, orange, red-orange
Nov. 15th, 1894.	1 dollar black
Dec. 10th, 1894.	2 dollars sapphire blue, deep sapphire blue
Dec. 10th, 1894.	5 dollars deep yellow-green

Ribbed Paper.

5 cents red-brown

Varieties :

2 cents (type III) bright rose.	Imperforate horizontally
5 cents yellow-brown	" "
6 cents claret-brown	" "
50 cents orange	" "
3 cents purple	Imperforate
4 cents dark yellow-brown	"
5 cents orange-brown	"
10 cents dark blue-green	"

Watermarked U. S. P. S.

Porous White Wove paper.

Apl. 29th, 1895.	1 cent pale ultramarine, ultramarine, pale blue, blue, dark blue, navy blue, deep dull blue
May 2nd, 1895.	2 cents (type I) rose, carmine-rose, carmine, pale aniline rose
	2 cents (type II) bright aniline rose, rose, rose-carmine
	2 cents (type III) bright aniline rose, rose, rose-carmine, carmine, rose-vermilion, pink, crimson, carmine-lake
Oct. 31st, 1895.	3 cents purple, deep purple
June 5th, 1895.	4 cents dark yellow-brown, gray-brown, black-brown
June 11th, 1895.	5 cents orange-brown, dark orange-brown, deep brown
Aug. 31st, 1895.	6 cents claret, deep claret, claret-brown
July 22nd, 1895.	8 cents brown-violet, plum
June 7th, 1895	10 cents bright blue-green, blue-green
Sept. 10th, 1895.	15 cents indigo, dark indigo
Nov. 9th, 1895.	50 cents yellow-orange, orange, red-orange
Aug. 12th, 1895.	1 dollar black
Aug, 13th, 1895.	2 dollars sapphire blue, deep sapphire blue
Aug. 16th, 1895.	5 dollars dark yellow-green

Double Paper.

1897.	1 cent dark blue
	2 cents (type III) rose-carmine

Laid Paper.

1898	2 cents (type III) carmine-rose
	4 cents dark brown
	10 cents blue-green

Varieties :

1 cent deep dull blue	Imperforate
2 cents carmine-rose	"
3 cents purple	"
4 cents dark yellow-brown	"
5 cents deep orange-brown	"
6 cents claret	"

8 cents plum Imperforate,
10 cents blue-green "

Three varieties of imprint and three styles of numerals have been used for this issue. For numbers 1 to 154 inclusive shaded numerals 3¼ mm. high were used. From 155 to 327 inclusive the numerals were more ornate and only 2¾ mm. high. Above 327 a third style was introduced and still remains in use. In this the numerals are thin and without shading and 2¾ mm. in height.

The first style of imprint used was a plain rectangle with a thin frame line. This was applied to the postage and postage due stamps from 1 to 75 inclusive and also to 159. The second style of imprint was made by cutting the frame line more firmly and clearly and adding at each end a rosette and an arrow-head ornament. This imprint has been used on all postage and postage due stamps above plate 75 with the exception of 159. In the third type the letters are all capitals, the panel is much longer, the ends are octagonal and finished by a three branched ornament. This imprint appears only on the Special Delivery and the Newspapers and Periodicals stamps.

All the plates of the one, two and ten cents and a few of the three, four and five cents values contain four hundred stamps each. All other plates contain two hundred stamps each. The impressions are, as usual, divided into sheets of one hundred stamps. The lines of division are indicated by arrow heads in the margins and on some of the plates by ruled lines. On the plates with two hundred stamps the imprint appears at the middle of the top and bottom of each half of the plate, on those having four hundred stamps it is placed at the top—or bottom—and outer side of each quarter of the plate. The plate number is always placed at the right of the imprint.

The plate numbers are as follows:

1894. Without Watermark.

1 cent		(400) No.	2, 6, 15, 17, 18, 21, 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 98, 99, 101, 102, 119, 120, 121, 122,
2 cents	(type I)	(400) No.	1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 30, 32, 78, 79, 80, 82, 88, 89, 96, 97, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 124, 125, 144,
2 cents	(type II)	(400) No.	126, 131, 132, 133,
2 cents	(type III)	(400) No.	141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158,
3 cents		(400) No.	44, 46, 47, 48,
		(200) No.	91, 95, 103, 107,
4 cents		(400) No.	45, 50, 51, 59,
		(200) No.	92, 94, 104, 106,
5 cents		(400) No.	49, 53, 54, 56,
		(200) No.	128, 129, 130, 134, 161, 162, 163, 164,

6 cents	(200)	No.	28,
8 cents	(200)	No.	58,
10 cents	(400)	No.	55, 62, 63, 64,
15 cents	(200)	No.	52,
50 cents	(200)	No.	75,
1 dollar	(200)	No.	76,
2 dollars	(200)	No.	84,
5 dollars	(200)	No.	85,

Varieties :

2 cents	Imperforate horizontally	No. 153,
5 cents	" "	No. 130,
6 cents	" "	No. 28,
50 cents	" "	No. 75,
3 cents	Imperforate	No. 47,
4 cents	"	No. 50,
5 cents	"	No. 53,
10 cents	"	No. 63,

1895. Watermarked U. S. P. S.

1 cent		(400) No.	24, 29, 33, 35, 98, 99, 101, 102, 119, 120, 121, 122, 165, 166, 167, 168, 177, 178, 179, 180, 234, 237, 240, 245, 276, 277, 278, 280, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 304, 308, 310, 313, 314, 333, 334, 335, 336, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 350, 352, 355, 360, 362, 365, 366, 367, 369, 370, 371, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 452, 453, 454, 455, 493, 494, 495, 496, 526, 527, 528, 529,
2 cents	(type I)	(400) No.	78, 79, 80, 82, 88, 96, 97, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 124, 125, 144,
2 cents	(type II)	(400) No	126, 131, 132, 133, 169, 170,
2 cents	(type III)	(400) No.	141, 142, 143, 145, 146, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 160, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 181, 182, 183, 185, 186, 187, 188, 191, 198, 199, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 209, 210, 211, 212,

		213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 235, 236, 238, 239, 241, 242, 243, 244, 274, 275, 279, 281, 282, 283, 290, 291, 292, 293, 307, 311, 312, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328 329, 330, 331, 332, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 349, 354, 356, 358, 361, 363, 364, 368, 372, 374, 376, 379, 382, 383, 384, 385, 387, 388, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 468, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 522, 523, 524, 525, 550, 551, 552, 553, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 593,
3 cents	(200) No.	91, 95, 103, 107, 447, 448, 449, 450,
4 cents	(200) No.	92, 94, 104, 106, 194, 195, 196, 197, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 530, 531, 532, 533,
5 cents	(200) No.	128, 129, 130, 134, 161, 162, 163, 164, 189, 190, 192, 193, 250, 251, 252, 253, 351, 353, 357, 359, *375, *377, *378, *380, 389, 390, 391, 392,
6 cents	(200) No.	28, 184, 248, 373, 386, 451,

8 cents	(200) No.	58, 249, 555,
10 cents	(400) No.	55, 62, 63, 64, 302, 303, 305, 306, *518, *519, *520, *521,
15 cents	(200) No.	52, 264,
50 cents	(200) No.	75, *286,
1 dollar	(200) No.	76, *287,
2 dollars	(200) No.	84, *289,
5 dollars	(200) No.	85, *288,

The plates marked with an asterisk (*) have not yet been put in use.

Varieties:

1 cent	Imperforate	No. 314, 334,
2 cents	"	No. 319,
3 cents	"	No. 103,
4 cents	"	No. 94,
5 cents	"	No. 251,
6 cents	"	No. 373,
8 cents	"	No. 249,
10 cents	"	No. 305,

The annual reports of the Postmaster General supply the following statistics of stamps issued to deputy postmasters.

Stamps issued during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1895.

QUARTER ENDING:

	Sept. 30, 1894.	Dec. 31, 1894.	Mar. 31, 1895.	June 30, 1895.	Total.
1 cent	131,620,000	181,626,700	177,613.700	182,294,850	673,155,250
2 cents	432,205,100	523,324,900	535,462,800	522,322,850	2,013,315,650
3 cents	2,611,900	4,871,200	5,737,300	4,030,350	17,250,750
4 cents	3,691,550	5,934,300	6,121,600	4,940,400	20,687,850
5 cents	9,051,780	9,487,880	12,170,760	10,782,430	41,492,850
6 cents	836,800	1,351,950	1,179,650	1,113,650	4,482,050
8 cents	1,228,550	2,138,450	2,117,350	1,897,800	7,382,150
10 cents	2,879,380	4,042,680	5,044,470	3,644,290	15,610,820
15 cents	217,020	484,040	450,880	500,830	1,652,770
30 cents	75,550	37,438	.....	.....	112,988
50 cents	.....	99.540	36,440	15,880	151,860
90 cents	9,120	70,381	.....	.....	79,501
1 dollar	.....	11,620	10,751	11,850	34,221
2 dollars	.....	3,355	4,967	1,790	10,112
5 dollars	.....	1,570	2,737	1,679	5,986

Whole number of stamps 2,795,424,808. Value $53,351,789.30.

Stamps issued during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896.

QUARTER ENDING:

	Sept. 30, 1895.	Dec. 31, 1895.	Mar. 31. 1896.	June 30, 1896.	Total.
1 cent	150,408,800	195,385,600	191,537,200	192,496,600	729,828,200
2 cents	507,871,400	547,252,400	574,552,500	544,997,500	2,174,673,800

3 cents	3,839,500	5,464,500	5,988,400	4,218,800	19,511,200
4 cents	4,355,850	7,643,400	6,381,300	4 850,600	23,231,150
5 cents	9,550,200	11,398,440	12,139,680	10,905,720	43,994,040
6 cents	1,067,100	1,651,850	1,513,450	1,404 850	5,637,250
8 cents	1,997,400	2,345,850	2,757,750	2,084,000	9,185,000
10 cents	3,725,360	4,612,550	4,898,550	4,027,560	17,264,020
15 cents	331,820	652,380	603,740	410,940	1,998,880
50 cents	15,620	27,820	28,270	17,510	89,220
1 dollar	12,470	13,852	9,645	6,610	42,577
2 dollars	8,345	5,415	2,075	335	16,170
5 dollars	3,175	3,180	2,465	1,140	9,960

Whole number of stamps 3,025,481,467. Value $57,774,638.00.

Stamps issued during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

QUARTER ENDING :

	Sept. 30, 1896.	Dec. 31, 1896.	Mar. 31, 1897.	June 30, 1897.	Total.
1 cent	145,068,800	189,247,500	194,221,800	196,113,400	724,651,500
2 cents	507,131,600	553,723,400	582,508,700	575,663,300	2,219,027,000
3 cents	3,883,400	5,486,500	5,956,700	4,459 700	19,786,300
4 cents	4,473,900	6,139,600	5,909,250	5,232,900	21,755,650
5 cents	9,612,140	12,200,960	12,250,880	10,310,040	44,374,020
6 cents	1,125,250	1,512,450	1,516,750	1,429,450	5,583,900
8 cents	1,771,550	2,587,000	2,473,900	2,472,900	9,305,350
10 cents	3,712,880	4,621,050	4 665,050	4,120,410	17,119,390
15 cents	360,280	596,740	491,860	443,940	1,892,820
50 cents	20,480	37,180	14,170	37,970	109,800
1 dollar	2,040	10,600	3,880	6,815	23,335
2 dollars	190	880	1,060	20	2,150
5 dollars	60	50	1,560	1,000	2,670

Whole number of stamps 3,063,633,885. Value $58,480,780.00

In the *Postal Guide* for 1898 the number of stamps of the several denominations which were issued without watermark is reported as follows :

1 cent	404,168,300
2 cents	1,271,048,700
3 cents	20,214,300
4 cents	16,718,150
5 cents	30,688,840
6 cents	5,120,800
8 cents	2,426,100
10 cents	12,263,180
15 cents	1,583,920
50 cents	175,330
1 dollar	35,046
2 dollars	10,027
5 dollars	6,251

Whole number of stamps 1,764,458,944. Value $34,411,516.00.

In 1897 the current series, as well as the special delivery, postage due and newspaper stamps were surcharged "UNIVERSAL–POSTAL–UNION," in

three lines and presented to the delegates to the Congress of the Universal Postal Union, then in session at Washington. The author has also seen some one-cent stamps surcharged on the back "P C" in red ink, by means of a rubber hand stamp. It has been suggested that these stamps were supplied to the delegates to the congress for franking their letters. This, however, is merely surmise.

Concerning the counterfeit of the two-cent stamp, mentioned on a previous page, the annual report of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General for 1895 furnishes the following information :

"Counterfeiters have plied their vocation for ages and in many forms, but never until the last year have they directed their attention to the manufacture of spurious postage stamps. A bold scheme to defraud the Government by means of counterfeit stamps was developed through our inspectors last spring. This scheme was operated from Chicago and the adjacent Canadian territory. The counterfeitors having produced a supply of bogus stamps, established ther headquarters in Hamilton, Ontario, under the title of "The Canadian Novelty and Supply Company." Advertisements were then inserted in various newspapers, alleging that this company had received large quantities of stamps in payment for their novelties, which they desired to dispose of at a great discount, in order to convert the stamps into money. The stamps were declared to be in good condition and were offered at the rate of $115 worth for $100. Under the direction of an inspector, a party in Chicago ordered $100 worth of these stamps, which upon examination were found to be cleverly executed counterfeits. Several packages of them, then in a Chicago express office, were seized, and the inspectors at once undertook the work of discovering the criminals. Developments proved that this scheme had been nipped in its incipiency, and it is believed that less than 100,000 of these counterfeit stamps were produced, the greater portion of which have been confiscated. The investigation resulted in the discovery of the perforating machine and other paraphernalia used by the counterfeiters and the arrest of Charles O. Jones, Tinsa McMillan, alias Mrs. Mack, and Warren T. Thompson."

At the time this counterfeit was first reported it was generally understood that the credit of the discovery was due to a stamp collector who, having been sent to examine a package of the stamps which his employers had ordered by C. O. D. express, at once detected the fraud and notified the authorities. It is also certain that the counterfeits were promptly detected by the watchful eyes of philatelists in many parts of the country. The postmarks of the letters which bore them showed an extensive distribution throughout the middle west.

In official eyes the counterfeits were probably dangerous and many of them might have escaped detection in large post offices where the clerks are very busy and cancelling machines are largely employed. But their poor appearance ought to have attracted the attention of anyone at all observing and they certainly would have been at once detected by the average stamp collector.

They were made by some process of photo-lithography and apparently were copied from a block of stamps of type I. The general appearance is much blurred, especially around the triangles, while the shading at the sides and bottom which indicates the beveled edge of the panel is almost solid, instead of showing fine ruled lines. The original stamps measure 19x22 mm. while the counterfeits vary from 19 to 19¼x22½ to 23 mm. The perforating was done with a machine of the correct gauge, 12, which perforated only one row at a time, thus often producing irregular spacing between the rows. The color is a very good reproduction of the rose carmine shade of the genuine stamps and the coarse wove paper is sufficiently like that of the originals not to attract attention. It is said that there were three printings of the counterfeits. The first was in blocks of twenty-five, five rows of five stamps each ; the second was in blocks of fifteen, three rows of five stamps

each ; and the third in strips of five. Some of the last printing were yet imperforate when the malefactors were arrested.

Issue of 1898.

In January, 1898 the color of the one cent stamp was changed to green and in March of the same year that of the five cents to dark blue. These are the colors assigned to these two values by the Universal Postal Union. The change was made in accordance with the agreement of the Post Office Department of the United States to adopt the colors recognized by the Union on or before January 1st, 1899. It is reported that the color of the five cents has been found to be too dark and that late printings of the stamp are in a much lighter shade but probably none have yet been issued as no change has been noted in the philatelic journals. It is also said that the four cents will hereafter be printed in the color at present used for the six cents and that the six and ten cents will soon appear in new colors.

The paper, watermark, gum and perforation remain the same as in the series of 1894-95. The one cent stamps have been seen on the laid paper noticed in the preceding chapter.

Perforated 12.

Porous White Wove Paper.

Watermarked U. S. P. S.

1 cent pale yellow-green, yellow-green, dark yellow-green dark gray-green, green, dark green
5 cents dark blue

Laid Paper.

1 cent yellow-green

The number of stamps on the plates and the arrangement of the imprints and plate numbers are the same as for the same values of the issues of 1894-95. Up to this date the following plates are reported to have been used for the stamps in the new colors.

1 cent	(400) No.	439, 440, 441?, 442?, 446, 452, 493, 494, 495, 496, 526, 527, 528, 529, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549,
5 cents	(200) No.	389, 390, 391, 392, 407, 408, 409, 410,

The two plates of the one cent marked " ? " are said to have been used for one printing but philatelists have been unable to verify the statement.

No statistics of quantities printed in the new colors are yet available.

In June, 1898, many millions of the one-cent green and two-cents carmine were surcharged " I. R." to supply a deficiency in internal revenue stamps of those values. The one cent blue is said to have been likewise surcharged but the report lacks confirmation.

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI ISSUE.

In the latter part of the year 1897 the daily papers announced the intention of the Postmaster General to issue a series of celebration stamps in commemoration of the Trans-Mississippi exposition, to be held at Omaha in the summer of 1898. This exposition was an event, doubtless, of considerable local interest and worth, but scarcely of that degree of national or historical importance which we expect in events that are honored by commemorative issues of stamps.

Against this issue collectors, dealers and philatelic societies protested, as being unnecessary and undignified. But their protests were unheeded and the stamps duly made their appearance, to be greeted with little praise and much unfavorable criticism. When first announced it was promised that the vignettes would be printed in black and the borders in colors. But this idea was subsequently abandoned on the plea that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing had "found it impossible to furnish satisfactorily or in the time desired supplies of the several denominations in two colors." The promise that the issue should surpass the beautiful Columbian issue was also "honored in the breach." The stamps are poorly conceived and executed, overloaded with ornaments, heavy in color and blurred in printing. If intended as a speculation they will, apparently, be a costly one to the Department but one which, let us hope, will prove a warning against possible unnecessary issues in the future.

The stamps are officially described as follows :

"The Trans Mississippi stamps differ materially in size from the ordinary series, the engraved space being about seven-eighths of an inch wide by about one and three-eighths long. The designs are also radically unlike those of the ordinary stamps—consisting of a border (substantially the same in all the denominations, except that the figures and letters representing values are different), and a central scene indicative in some way of the development of the great region beyond the Mississippi River. The scenes and the borders are all printed from line engravings on steel, executed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department.

The border, which forms in its inner line an irregular oval framework to each of the scenes represented, consists of a fluted figure on either side, with interior cross-bars, beginning in a single line near the bottom of the stamp, and enlarging until it reaches a shield in each of the upper corners, wherein is engraved in white the Arabic numeral of denomination—the dollar mark being also included in the case of the one and two dollar stamps. At the top, connecting the two shields, and united to the fluted framework on the two sides, is a curved tablet, on which are engraved in small white capitals the words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." Above this, on either side, are heads of wheat, and between these a small scroll. Immediately below the central scene is the title of the picture in diminutive white Gothic letters on a curved tablet, and below this on either side, in scrolls, are the words of value, "ONE," "TWO," and so on, in white capitals, except in the case of the two highest denominations, when "$1.00" and "$2.00" are substituted for letters. Above each of these is a projecting ear of corn, and at the bottom of all on a straight black tablet are the words "POSTAGE ONE CENT," "POSTAGE TWO CENTS," and so on.

The scenes represented on the stamps, together with the colors of the several denominations, are these:

ONE CENT. "Marquette on the Mississippi," from a painting by Lamp-

recht, now in possession of the Marquette College of Milwaukee, Wis., representing Father Marquette in a boat on the Upper Missippi, preaching to the Indians. Color, dark green.

TWO CENT. "Farming in the West," from a photograph, representing a western grainfield with a long row of plows at work. Color, copper red.

FOUR CENT "Indian Hunting Buffalo," reproduction of an engraving in Schoolcraft's History of the Indian Tribes. Color, orange.

FIVE CENT. "Fremont on Rocky Mountains," modified from a wood engraving, representing the Pathfinder planting the U. S. flag on the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. Color, dark blue.

EIGHT CENT. "Troops Guarding Train," representing a detachment of U. S. soldiers convoying an emigrant train across the prairies; from a drawing by Frederic Remington, permission to use which was kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell of New York. Color, dark lilac.

TEN CENT. "Hardships of Emigration," from a painting kindly loaned by the artist A. G. Heaton, representing an emigrant and his family on the plains in a "prairie schooner," one of the horses having fallen from exhaustion. Color, slate.

FIFTY CENT. "Western Mining Prospector," from a drawing by Frederic Remington (permission to use which has been kindly given by the publisher, R. H. Russell of New York), representing a prospector with his pack-mules in the mountains, searching for gold. Color, olive.

ONE DOLLAR. "Western Cattle in Storm," representing a herd of cattle preceded by the leader, seeking safety from a gathering storm; reproduced from a large steel engraving after a picture by J. MacWhirter—the engraving having been kindly loaned by Mrs. C. B. Johnson. Color, light brown.

TWO DOLLAR. "Mississippi River Bridge," from an engraving—a representation of the great bridge over the Mississippi, at St. Louis. Color, sapphire blue."

The paper, gum, perforation and watermark remain the same as in the previous issue by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, but the watermark is placed sideways.

Perforated 12.

Porous White Wove Paper.

Watermarked U. S. P. S.

June 17th, 1898.

1 cent gray-green, yellow-green, dark yellow-green, dark green
2 cents bright rose-red, rose-red, copper-red, brown red, dark brown-red
4 cents yellow-orange, orange, red-orange
5 cents deep blue, dark blue
10 cents gray-violet
50 cents sage green
1 dollar black
2 dollars orange-brown

The plates of this series each contain one hundred stamps. The impressions are divided vertically into sheets of fifty stamps, ten rows of five stamps each. The imprint is "BUREAU, ENGRAVING & PRINTING," in white

capitals on a small rectangular panel, surrounded by a thin colored line and having a trident shaped ornament at each end. The plate number and imprint appear at the top and bottom of each sheet of fifty stamps, above or below the third and fourth stamps, counting from the central line of the plate. The plate number is always placed at the right of the imprint.

Up to this date the following plates have been reported:

1 cent	No.	590, 591, 592, 598, 600, 601, 605, 607, 612, 635.
2 cents	No.	597, 608, 610, 611, 616, 619, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 644, 645, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653.
4 cents	No.	599, 634
5 cents	No.	602, 614, 618.
8 cents	No.	609.
10 cents	No.	604, 617, 620.
50 cents	No.	603.
1 dollar	No.	606.
2 dollars	No.	613.

The stamps of this series will not be issued after December 31st, 1898, though they will be available for postage at any future time.

Until the issue is completed statistics of quantities are, of course, not available.

Note.—It is the wish of the author to secure for this work the greatest possible accuracy and completeness. As an assistance to this end he requests philatelists to call his attention to any errors or corrections to be made in dates and to any varieties which may be omitted from the lists. In addition to this the publishers will greatly appreciate the loan of any copies of the Baltimore and Brattleboro stamps and of Carriers of type C4, C28, C29 and C30 (58th edition of the Standard Catalogue) in order that illustrations of as many types as possible may be secured. The loan of stamps of the current issue on blued paper is also requested. For which favors thanks are tendered in advance.

(*To be continued.*)

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

LONDON, 6 August, 1898.

Since the despatch of my last letter our Postmaster General has had a conference with representatives of the various British Colonies, at the instance of Mr. Mulock, Postmaster General of Canada, and the result is that in November next we shall have an Imperial Penny postage rate between the mother country and those colonies which find it convenient to adopt the penny rate. At present the probabilities are that only the Australian colonies will stand out of the arrangement. A penny rate cannot fail to assist the development of correspondence and trade between stamp dealers and collectors throughout the Empire.

Not a few are hoping that the better understanding which is happily growing up between this country and the United States will eventually draw your country also into the penny letter rate arrangement.

As a consequence of the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postal scheme some folks have been agitating for an Imperial Penny Postage stamp, but the Under Secretary for the Colonies stated in Parliament on Thursday last that "it is not in comtemplation to provide a special stamp for Imperial Penny Postage, as there is an existing stamp for the penny rate." All the same, there is not a penny stamp for the penny rate as desired by the advocates of Imperial Penny Postage, for, naturally, they want a penny stamp that shall be current in this country and all the colonies If, in addition to the penny rate, we could have a penny stamp that would be accepted within the range of the penny rate as payment for small remittances the scheme would certainly be considerably enhanced in value to the general public. As an Imperial Penny Stamp is dear to the heart of Mr. Henniker Heaton, the father of Imperial Penny Postage, you may be quite certain that it will come some day. To a man of his persistence and overwhelming mastery of facts all things are possible that he determinedly sets his hand to.

The adoption of Imperial Penny Postage is due solely to the manner in which Mr. Henniker Heaton has pursued his objectors. The moment anyone of them trotted out his objections Mr. Heaton was on his track confounding him in public with the utter exposure of the falsity of his facts and his figures. He mastered every detail that by any combination of circumstances could affect his scheme, and he utterly floored every objector that dared to step out into the open. The ridiculous figure that some of the objectors cut as a consequence of a bout with him has done more than anything else to prepare the way for the ultimate adoption of his scheme. Some day he will have to be made Postmaster General. Needless to say our Permanent Post Office Officials do not love him. His restless activity and unrivalled grasp of details would render their official existence unbearable. Red tape would be at a terrible discount.

Philatelically speaking, Imperial Penny Postage will not make much difference in our catalogues. It will require no new stamps, except in a few colonies that are not already provided with two-penny stamps, for two-penny stamps will be rendered necessary for double postage. The 2½d and 5d. stamps will still be needed for the ordinary Postal Union requirements, until such time as the Postal Union feels itself compelled by the development of the Imperial Penny Postage scheme to adopt a similar rate. That will probably come some day as a natural consequence, for a penny rate within the British Empire and, shall we say, the United States, will of course place all countries outside that combination at a decided disadvantage.

I was much amused at a recent auction in noting the ease with which some people of the speculative turn will jump at anything that seems to be out of the ordinary. A Transvaal red stamp of the first republic had been catalogued as a 1d. red, but before the sale came on it had been discovered to be a 3d. printed in the color of the 1d. The auctioneer dilated on the discovery as something very unique. I inspected the stamp—and smiled. The auctioneer grew more enthusiastic and emphatic about the undoubted discovery. A speculator in Transvaals jumped breathlessly to the bait. He outbid everyone in his determination to have that stamp. There was quite a brisk competition for it. I chuckled to myself at the game that was going forward, but kept quiet, for I have not a very rooted objection to speculators burning their fingers now and then. Eventually the rarity was knocked

down for £1 to the speculator, who probably would have gone to treble that amount for it.

Now for the sequel. Perhaps this will, if he is a reader of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, be the first intimation to him that the unique discovery is nothing more than the 3d red of the second republic, issue of 1884, with the perforations trimmed off, which may be had for a few pence.

Whilst I am yarning about the stamps of my favorite country let me relate yet another equally amusing little incident. Some years ago I was reading a paper on Transvaals before the Philatelic Society of London, and I expressed my inability to make head or tail of one particular stamp in my collection. The paper upon which it was printed seemed to me to be quite different from the recognized paper of the issue An authority present looked at the stamp and forthwith pronounced it to be an obvious forgery. Result: a hearty good laugh at the expense of yours truly.

But here again we have a sequel. A few weeks ago, under an assumed name, I sent that self same stamp to the expert committee of the Philatelic Society of London, and it has been duly returned to me endorsed as genuine by the very man who so readily pronounced it a forgery at the meeting referred to.

That is comical enough, but the fact remains that I am inclined to believe in my friend's *first* pronouncement, and some day I believe I shall be able to demonstrate the fact that the stamp is a forgery.

Still, it is somewhat curious that an eminent collector should without hesitation at an open meeting pronounce a stamp to be a forgery and some years afterwards when called upon as a responsible expert to pronounce upon the same stamp should give his written and signed certificate of its genuineness.

COUNTERFEIT ONE SHILLING GREAT BRITAIN STAMPS OF THE TYPE OF 1865.

We copy the following from the *Monthly Journal:*

GREAT POSTAGE STAMP FRAUD.

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE LOSES THOUSANDS!

DISCOVERY OF GREAT QUANTITIES OF FORGED ONE SHILLING STAMPS IN OUR PUBLISHERS' STOCK.

It has been the proud boast of British philatelists that, with the exception of imitations of the 1d black, there has been no dangerous forgery of our stamps during the fifty-eight years of their existence; but, alas! this boasting is vain, for we have found in our stock a *very large* number of counterfeits of the one shilling, green, plate 5.

To meet the ever-growing demand for used old English stamps, we recently purchased a large parcel of them. Many of these stamps had been on telegraph forms, as the reader will see by the postmark, which is that of the Stock Exchange Telegraph Office, and shows the date of July 23, 1872. No less than 100 of these forgeries, all used upon the same date, were found in this one parcel; and, as the fraud was never discovered, the Department may have been robbed to the tune of £5 a day for many months.

The question will naturally be asked how it is that this forgery has been brought to light twenty-six years later. Most collectors, however, are aware that stamps used on telegraph forms seldom come into the market, for the reason that the forms are filed and put away for future reference, and after the lapse of a certain number of years they are officially ordered to be destroyed. It, however, occasionally happens that by the connivance of some person employed to carry this out the stamps escape destruction, and find their way into the stamp market, as has happened in this case.

The points of difference between the Genuine and Forged stamps are chiefly as follows :—

First of all the forgeries are without watermark, whereas the genuine stamps from this plate are always watermarked with a "Spray of Rose."

It would appear that the stamps have been copied by a photographic process, for every line in the original is to be found in the forgeries, but it is in the minute details that the forgery fails to be an exact copy.

The chief differences to be noted are :—

FIRST. In the originals the square corners, containing the letters are always sharp and clear; in the forgery they have a rounded or blurred appearance in the angles.

SECOND. In the lace-work just after the "E" of "POSTAGE" there is a four-sided space formed by the lines of the lace-work and its curved end; this space in the forgery is nearly twice as large as in the originals.

A careful comparison of the four-fold enlargements we give above will show other small differences.

The examination of the forgeries has led us to suppose that the stamps were not copied in complete panes, as only certain *vertical* rows of letters are found.

We have no doubt that a *very large fraud* on the postal revenue took place in 1872; this could have occurred in only two ways, as far as we can see :—

First. By the connivance of some one in the telegraph office attached to the Stock Exchange.

Secondly. By one or more stockbrokers' clerks using these forged stamps in the place of genuine ones.

We have, of course, placed the full details before the proper authorities, who are investigating it, but it is almost too much to hope that after the lapse of so many years the guilty can be brought to book.

Once again the stamp fraternity has been proved to be the best detective agency at the command of the Inland Revenue authorities.

OMAHA STAMPS NOT TO BE WITHDRAWN.

We were informed a few days ago that the Government had issued a circular to Postmasters, instructing them to discontinue requisitions for Omaha stamps.

The conclusion drawn by our informant was that the issue of Omaha stamps was to be suspended, and as this seemed unlikely to us, we addressed the Postmaster General as follows on the subject ;

HON. CHARLES EMORY SMITH,
Postmaster General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir :—We have been informed that orders have been issued to

postmasters to discontinue, at least for the present, all requisitions for the Omaha or Trans-Mississippi stamps.

As it was originally intended and announced that these stamps were to be sold at all post offices until December 31 of this year, we would be obliged if you would inform us whether it is intended to revoke the original decision, or whether the present order is only a temporary measure, made necessary by the amount of work thrown upon the shoulders of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing through the issue of Revenue stamps.

We thank you in advance for your reply to our request, and remain,

Yours truly,

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO., L'D.

We have received the enclosed reply from which our readers will see that Omaha stamps will continue in use as originally intended, until December 31, 1898. The amount which can be turned out by the Bureau, as indicated by the official letter which we quote, will no doubt be sufficient to supply all demands.

"Copy of circular sent by Department, when orders cannot be filled—Bureau can only issue 1,000,000 2c and 400,000 of all other kinds daily and is several days behind hand filling limited orders—issue not suspended, but limited.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

STAMP DIVISION.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Treasury Department having announced its inability to supply the Trans-Mississippi Stamps in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of postmasters, your requisition for such stamps has been cancelled. If there were upon that requisition any postal cards or stamped envelopes, that portion of the order will be filled immediately; and, as it is uncertain when it may be possible to secure the Trans-Mississippi stamps, you should, if your stamp supplies are low, make requisition for *ordinary* stamps on the white form, 3201. If the patrons of your office at a later period desire the Trans-Mississippi stamps, you can order them, and they will be sent you at the earliest possible moment.

Any requisition for Trans-Mississippi stamps in future should call for these stamps only. Owing to the fact that these requisitions will be held indefinitely, you can understand that your postal cards and envelopes will be secured with much greater promptness if they are *not* included on the yellow blank, form 3201–Omaha.

As stated in circulars heretofore, no requisition for the Trans-Mississippi stamps will be filled when ordered on the white form.

All communications as to Internal Revenue Stamps should be addressed to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. The Post Office Department does not furnish them."

JOHN A. MERRITT,

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

THE CATALOGUE QUESTION.

As we approached the season usually marked by the appearance of our annual catalogue, it became necessary for us to consider the lines which we would follow, not only in preparing the literary portion of the work, but also on the important question of prices.

The condition of the stamp business during the past year can best be described as one of semi-panic, in which the pressure to sell has at times caused an apparent suspension of the law of supply and demand, as well as a total disregard of the essential element of cost. Dealers, who had previously conducted a prosperous business, saw themselves compelled to retire from the field, and in the effort to realize upon their holdings were ready to offer large discounts, outbidding their competitors in the struggle for customers.

The question of cost on such material was finally dropped entirely from view, and it became no unusual occurrence to see unused stamps of current issues sold at far less than their actual cost at the post offices. Discounts of 50 and 60, and even 70 per cent., from catalogue rates have been offered on fair material, the supply, of course, being limited to what the party in question actually had in hand ; for, naturally, a dealer offering such discounts was without any hope or intention of replenishing his depleted supplies. We, ourselves, have maintained rather strictly our limited scale of discounts, refusing under all circumstances to meet this ruinous competition, and preferring to hold for a more favorable time the enormous stock which we have accumulated during the many years of our establishment. We have felt that the quantity of material that could be offered at these large rates of discount was necessarily limited, and that the supply would soon be practically, if not completely, exhausted. At the present moment indications of the correctness of our anticipations are becoming plentiful, and the variety of material offered at large discounts is already on the decrease.

In this, as in every other line of business dealing with an article which is dependent purely upon the actual demand and supply of the moment, there is a constant fluctuation of values, and it must be conceeded that some stamps have receded from their previous high-water mark and could with advantage be reduced to a lower level as far as the catalogue quotation is concerned.

However, even as to these stamps the market is decidedly unsettled and, after a careful review of the entire situation, we have decided that it would be inadvisable for the present to publish a catalogue. A true basis of value could not be established at this moment as the balance between the existing depression and the active demand of two years ago is still unadjusted. Owing to the slackening of demand, the absorptive capacity of the dealers has been greatly limited, and they have been compelled to allow stamps to be offered at retail at prices at which, under ordinary circumstances, they, themselves, would have been glad to buy them at wholesale. As soon as the expected improvement in general trade arrives, the demand for stamps will grow with the demand for other merchandise ; dealers will again be able to compete in the market as purchasers, and to absorb any material quoted below its fair value. This will restore ordinary trade to a normal basis grounded on the desirability and scarcity of each particular item.

We, ourselves, have great confidence in the future of the business, and feel that the condition of affairs will change entirely within the next three or four months, but, nevertheless, we would not feel justified in publishing a

new catalogue at this time, with prices based on the active demand existing about two years ago.

We are confident that we are approaching the time when a true and stable basis of values will be re-established, and when prices based on the relative rarity of specimens will be recognized as reasonable and will prevail. We have, therefore, decided to continue, for the present, the use of the 1898 edition of the catalogue, allowing discounts where we consider it advisable and strictly adhering to our quotations, where, in our judgment, the stamps are fully worth the price and cannot be duplicated on a lower level.

We expect that the present conditions will have disappeared before the end of the coming season, and we shall, if our anticipations are verified, publish the new edition of our catalogue in the spring or during the summer of 1899. We feel certain that the great majority of thinking collectors will approve our stand and commend our decision to postpone the publication of our catalogue; and, while we may be harshly criticised in quarters where harsh criticism of our catalogue, when published, was equally to be expected, we have no doubt that the future will justify our course and prove that we have acted for the best interests of all concerned.

THE SENF CATALOGUE.

We have received the new catalogue of Gebruder Senf which appears in a yellow cover. We have not as yet had time to study the details of the catalogue for an intelligent review, but our general impression, after a glance at it, is that it closely resembles its predecessor in make up as well as in the matter contained.

The prices appear to be on about the same level as the 1897 edition, except that British Colonials have been brought up somewhat nearer to the English catalogue standard. Unused stamps of old issues have been advanced to a considerable extent, and the catalogue would give no one the impression that there had been any reduction in the demand for stamps in any line.

CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

The Thirteenth Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association was held in this city from August 23d to 26th. Between sixty and seventy members were present. It was unfortunate that a hot wave should have elected to visit us at the same date, giving us the most disagreeable and oppressive weather of the entire summer and interfering with the comfort and pleasure of all. The meetings of the Convention were held at the Collectors Club.

The first session was called to order at 10.30 A. M. on the 23d. In the absence of the President, the chair was ably filled by Vice-President George L. Toppan, who made an interesting and patriotic opening address. Following this Mr. W. F. Gregory, President of the New York branch, extended a welcome to the visitors, and Mr. J. N. Luff, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, announced the programme of amusements during the Convention.

Mr. H. E. Deats read the report of the Credentials Committee and announced the election of the following directors for the ensuing year: F. F. Olney, W. C. Van Derlip, Geo. L. Toppan, E. M. Carpenter, W. N. Howe, C. P. Krauth, H. G. Smith, H. B. Phillips, P. F. Bruner.

The Vice-President then appointed the Committees on By-Laws, Branch Societies, Finance, Standing Rules, Library, Sales and Purchasing, and Official Journal. The reports of the officers for the preceding year showed progress and the various departments in a satisfactory condition.

The afternoon of the first day was devoted to a brief session followed by a carriage ride through Central Park to Grant's Tomb and return through the park to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In the evening an excellent vaudeville entertainment was given at the club house which was followed by a collation.

On Wednesday, the 24th the Association was called to order at 10 A. M. The special Committee appointed at the convention of 1897, to investigate the accounts of G. D. Mekeel, ex-Superintendent of Sales and Exchange, reported that all claims against him had been satisfactorily settled.

The Finance Committee reported on the accounts of the Treasurer. The Committee on official journal reported they had received three offers to publish the business notices etc, of the Association for the coming year and recommended the selection of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* as the official organ. After some discussion a vote was taken resulting in a majority vote in favor of the recommendation of the Committee. It then developed that a change in the official organ may only be made by amending the By-Laws which, on this subject, read as follows: "The By-laws of this Association may be altered or amended only by the consent of two-thirds of the stockholders voting on such alteration or amendment, and providing that such two-thirds shall constitute a third of all the members of the Association entitled to vote." As no such number was present or represented by proxy no action could be taken. The *Weekly Era* therefore remains the official organ for the ensuing year.

Mr. Krauth interested the members by a display of some of the ingenious mechancial aids to collecting for which he is so justly celebrated.

The afternoon was devoted to a trolley ride to Fort Hamilton and Coney Island, where most of the party saw the elephant and other things. Quite a number remained to see the sights by gas light.

Thursday was devoted to a steamer trip on the East and Hudson rivers, passing the numerous points of interest on the shores of Manhattan Island and adjacent sections, and the war-ships at anchor in the lower bay. At a session on board the steamer the place for the next meeting was discussed, and Detroit was selected as the choice of the majority. About 4 o'clock the party landed on Staten Island, where they were taken in hand by the members of the S. I. P. S., and delightfully entertained by a trolley ride around the island and a banquet at Stapleton.

A short session on Friday morning was devoted to reports of Committees followed by adjournment. The visitors expressed themselves much pleased with their entertainment, and the local members are glad to have been able to show them the pleasures of the metropolis and the hospitality of the Collectors Club.

NOTES.

The *Hungarian Official Gazette* of May 28th contains a notice from the Hungarian Finance Department announcing that new postage stamps with values in "kronen" will be issued on July 1st, 1898, replacing the stamps which have been current since the beginning of April, 1891. The stamps of the present issue may be sold until August 31st, but will on that day lose their value for prepayment and may not be used thereafter; they will however be exchanged, without charge, from the first to the thirtieth of September.

The new stamps will be issued in the following values: 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 14, 20, 24, 30, 50 and 72 heller, also 1 krone, 1 krone 20 heller, 1 krone 50 heller, 1 krone 80 heller, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 20, 24, 30 and 40 kronen, making in all 29 different denominations. They will be printed on thin white watermarked paper, the "heller" values measuring 29mm in width by 35 in height, the "krone" values 36x44mm. The background, consisting of horizontal lines in the "heller" values and of vertical lines in the "krone" values, will contain in the center a small tablet bearing the date "1898." The 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 heller stamps will bear a circle of pearls, surrounded by engine-turned decorations and containing the Hungarian crown. The 10, 14, 20 and 24 heller stamps will include in their design a book, a pair of scales, a sword, an anchor and a winged Mercury-cap. The 30, 40, 50 and 72 heller values will show an arched decoration with a garland of letters. The stamps of 1 krone, 1 krone 20 heller, 1 krone 50 heller, 1 krone 80 heller, 2 and 4 kronen will bear a Mercury with the caduceus and a female figure holding a book and a sword. On the 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12 kronen stamps will appear the Hungarian arms supported by two cherubs. Finally, on the values 14, 20, 24, 30 and 40 kronen, will be shown a seated female figure whose right hand holds the Hungarian coat-of-arms upon her knee. It is self understood that each stamp bears its value in arabic numerals.

The background colors will be light green, red, green, light brown, blue-gray; the colors of the figures: dark green, black, blue and brown-red.—(*Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung.*)

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Der Philatelist quotes *O Philatelista Rio Grandese* as authority for the statement that the 400th anniversary of the discovery of Brazil is to be commemorated by a special issue of stamps. According to the information supplied, the Brazilian Government will be so enthusiastically commemorative as to issue stamps of the values of 5,000 and 10,000 reis.

It is rather strange that such high values were never before required in Brazil, but it would be unjust to impute any ulterior motives to the authorities for such a new departure.

The values and designs are to be as follows:

10 reis, Picture of Brazilian aborigine.
20 " Portrait of Pedro Alvares Cabral, who introduced western civilization into Brazil.
50 " Portrait of Tiradentes, as martyr to his country.
100 " Portrait of Jose Bonifacio, as the pioneer of Brazilian independence.
200 " Portrait of Dom Pedro of Alcantara, as representative of the Imperial regime.

300 reis, Portrait of Benjamin Constant, as apostle of the Republic.
500 " Portrait of Deodoro da Fonseca, as representative of the liberators of the country.
700 " Portrait of Florian Peixoto, as representive of the soldiers of the country.
1000 " The first expedition to Brazil.
2000 " The battle of Ypiranga.
5000 " Proclamation of the Republic.
10000 " Allegory representing civilization.

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We illustrate the surcharge on the envelopes and wrappers of Mauritius chronicled by us last month.

4
Cents

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We have received from one of our friends the following clipping from a newspaper published in British Honduras:

"Governor Wilson of British Honduras is arousing the full blast of *The Clarion* because, in spite of the wishes of the people, he has refused to sanction the issue of a commemorative postage stamp to perpetuate the memory of the battle of St. George's Cay. *The Clarion* says the Governor has been advised by addle-pated people, and for failing to meet the laudable wishes of the people, *The Clarion* (to use its own words) has 'chalked this up against Mr. Wilson'; but it does not suggest that the Government could have made a handsome "deal" in connection with the issue of stamps. Honduras must be in funds."

We may indeed congratulate ourselves upon there being one country which intends to steer clear of Jubilee issues.

If this business continues at the present rate, we shall have a Jubilee issue appearing on each day when the sun shines after a rainy spell, or to celebrate hundreds of other occasions equally important.

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We copy the following from the June number of the *Australian Philatelist*, and collectors may draw their own conclusions as to the character of the present administration of the Post Office Department in New Zealand:

"We regret that the New Zealand authorities are apparently pandering to the vicious taste of collectors for rarities. The *Auckland Star* contains the following paragraph: 'Owing to the continued demand by collectors for 2½d stamps, in which the name "Wakatipu" is misspelt "Wakitipu," a further supply of 50,000 is now on its way to the colony. The following changes in other stamps are also to be made as soon as practicable. The design at present in use for the 1d stamp (Lake Taupo) will be used for the 4d, and the present 4d design (White Terrace) for the 1d. This was the original intention, but in some way the designs were confused in London. The new 4d stamp will be printed in the brown and blue tints, which have been so admired in the present 1d stamp, but the opportunity will be taken

to transpose the colors of the new 1d and 9d, as being more suitable for the representations of the White and Pink Terraces. Further supplies of all stamps have been printed on watermarked paper. The present 1d design has to be printed in two colors, and is too expensive for stamps which are used in such large numbers.'

The printing of a further supply of the already condemned error of the 2½d is a death-blow to the hopes of speculators who bought for a rise."

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Le Timbre Poste states that the stamps of Anjouan, Diego Suarez, Mayotte, Nossi Bé, and St. Marie de Madagascar are to be withdrawn and replaced by a new set for use throughout the island of Madagascar. We are rather at a loss to explain the withdrawal of stamps at Anjouan for any such reason, as this Sultanate has, as far as we know, no connection with the island of Madagascar.

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We read in one of our contemporaries that the present issue of Corean stamps has been surcharged on account of the change in the official designation of the country.

The information appears to be rather vague, and we shall await confirmation of the rumor before accepting it as authentic.

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Roumania has not been happy for the past seven years, and hence the inauguration of the new postal palace in Bucharest is to be celebrated by the issue of a stamp which is to be good for postage only on the day of the inauguration.

The stamp is to be three times the size of the current Roumanian stamps, and the design is to be in Byzantine style. It will represent a view of one side of the palace, flanked by Byzantine columns, above which will appear a portrait of the King, as well as various telegraphic and postal symbols.

The die is being engraved in Paris by the Roumanian engraver Popescu.

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We present herewith the illustration of a stamp used by some officers of the War Department in forwarding heavy letters and other material through the mails. There seems to be no question that the frank was passed by



some employees of the Post-office, but on the other hand there seems also to be no question that such use was without sanction by competent authority.

From information supplied us it would appear that the issue of the stamp was the result of the enterprise of a stamp collector in the army, the ultimate purpose being its placing on the market for the purpose of pecuniary profit.

Our opinion is that the stamp is unworthy of recognition by stamp collectors, although it may be justly entitled to consideration as an interesting relic of the Spanish war.

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Although there is no unanimity of opinion among collectors on the question of the insertion or exclusion of officially sealed stamps in the 1899 edition of the International Album, we have concluded that the demand for their inclusion is sufficiently strong to warrant our recognizing its force.

We shall therefore replace the officially sealed stamps of the U. S. in the album, but as they are not postage stamps in any sense of the word, they will be found at the back of the album with the Telegraphs, Revenues, etc.

CHRONICLE.

UNITED STATES.—Mr. Alfred H. Greenebaum has sent us the 1c yellow green of the current issue, plate 536, on laid paper.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated 12.
Watermarked U. S. P. S.
Laid paper.
1c yellow green

AFGHANISTAN.—The *Monthly Journal* has received used specimens of the stamps of the current issue on blue tissue paper.

Adhesive stamp.
Imperforate.
1 abassi black on blue tissue paper

ANGRA.—The new values announced for Portugal in our August number have also appeared in this Colony.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
65r gray green
115r salmon on pink
130r brown on buff
180r slate on pinkish

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.—It is said that the 3 pence of the present issue of Great Britain has been surcharged for use in this protectorate.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Crown.
Perforated 14.
3p lilac on yellow, black surcharge

BRITISH GUIANA.—We have received, without previous notice, 1c and 2c stamps of new designs, which, as we are informed by the *Fortnightly*, are issued as a permanent set. Our contemporary has also seen three additional values, the 5c and 15c being of the same design as the 1c, and the 10c the same as the 2c.

Adhesive stamps.





Watermarked Crown and C. C.
Perforated.

1c carmine, center gray black
2c blue " brown
5c brown " green
10c red " blue black
15c blue " red brown

CANADA.—The 1c envelope has now appeared, and while it somewhat resembles the recent 3c atrocity in general design, a different head has been adopted, and the general effect is both striking and pleasing.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* states that it has received official information that the complete new set with figures of value in lower corners is soon to be placed on sale.

The complete set of values and colors is as follows :

½c black
1c green
2c purple
3c rose red
5c blue
6c brown
8c orange
10c violet brown
15c gray
20c yellow green
50c green olive

No doubt the stamps when issued will vary somewhat in shade from the official list quoted herein.

Envelope.



Size 87x148 mm.
White wove paper.
1c dark green

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have now received the 3 pence stamp, with the anchor watermark, in about the same shade as the stamp of the same value which was surcharged in 1879.

The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has received the 4d stamp in a new color, namely, olive.

It also states that the 6d will be issued in a slightly different shade of violet, and that the surcharged 2½d on 3d, originally issued in 1891, is again on sale.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked Anchor.

Perforated 14.

3p violet rose
4p olive

CAPE VERDE.—New stamps in the current type of the present issue of Portugal have appeared in Cape Verde, as well as in three other colonies, and similar issues are to follow in the near future for the remaining possessions of Portugal.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

2½r gray
5r orange yellow
10r light green
15r brown
20r lilac
25r dark green
50r blue
75r rose
80r purple
100r dark blue on blue
150r light brown on buff
200r red lilac on pale lilac
300r blue on rose

CHINA.—The 10c stamp of the London print has now been issued, and it is of exactly the same design as the ½c and 1c which preceded it.

Adhesive stamp.

Watermarked a shell.

Perforated.

10c dark blue green

COOK ISLANDS.—Three new values have been added to the current set in an entirely new design, the illustration of which will speak for itself.

Adhesive stamps.



Watermarked N. Z. and Star.

Perforated 11.

2p brown 6p purple 1s carmine

FALKLAND ISLANDS.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* has seen specimens of two high values to be added to the current series, namely, 2s6p and 5s. The stamps are said to be well printed and are of entirely new and striking designs.

Adhesive stamps.
Watermarked Crown and C. C.
Perforated 14.
2s 6p dark blue
5s brown red

FUNCHAL.—The new values announced for Portugal in our August number have also appeared in this Colony.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
65r gray green
115r salmon on pink
130r brown on buff
180r slate on pinkish

GOLD COAST.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* has seen specimen copies of all the low values in the same type as the 5, 10 and 20 shilling stamps which appeared in 1889.

Adhesive stamps.
Watermarked Crown and C. C.
Perforated 14.
½p lilac and green
1p lilac and carmine
2½p lilac and ultramarine
3p lilac and yellow
6p lilac and violet
1s gray green and black
2s gray green and carmine

British Offices in Morocco.—In addition to our chronicle of these new issues, the Registration envelope of Gibraltar, in three sizes, has also received the surcharge.

Registration envelopes.
Size 134x83 mm.
20c red, black surcharge
Size 152x96 mm.
20c red, black surcharge
Size 202x128 mm.
20c red, black surcharge

GUATEMALA.—We are informed on reliable authority that two new provisionals have been made, namely a 1c on 75c and a 10c on 100c.

The remarkable circumstances about this issue is that the Exposition stamps of 1897 were used for surcharging, whereas all the remainders of this set are supposed to have been disposed of at auction sale, the competition for which closed on July 31.

We have not as yet received specimens of the provisionals, but chronicle them on the strength of our information.

Adhesive stamps.
Provisional issue.
Perforated.
1c on 75c sky blue
10c on 100c green

GUINEA.—The new set has also appeared in this Colony.
Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
2½r gray
5r orange yellow
10r light green
15r brown
20r lilac
25r dark green
50r blue
75r rose
80r purple
100r dark blue on blue
150r light brown on buff
200r red lilac on pale lilac
300r blue on rose

HONDURAS.—This country has again distinguished itself by a hideous new issue which is somewhat worse in execution than that of 1896. The central figure of the design is a locomotive drawing a train of cars.

We have thus far seen only the 10c value which we shall illustrate next month.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated.
10c blue

HORTA.—The new values announced for Portugal in our August number have also appeared in this Colony.
Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
65r gray green
115r salmon on pink
130r brown on buff
180r slate on pinkish

MACAO.—The new set has also appeared in this colony.
Adhesive stamps.
Perforated.
½a gray
1a orange yellow
2a light green
2½a brown
3a lilac
4a dark green
8a blue
12a rose
13a purple

16a dark blue on blue
24a light brown on buff
31a red lilac on pale lilac
47a blue on rose

Mozambique Co.—The entire set of the current issue from 2½r to 300r and also the 10r and 20r postal cards, have been surcharged to celebrate the fourth centenary of the discovery of the road to India by Vasco da Gama. The illustration presented herewith will make detailed description of the surcharge unnecessary.

Adhesive stamps.



Perforated.	
2½r olive bistre	black surcharge
5r orange	orange "
10r reddish violet	violet "
15r chocolate	" "
20r lavender	" "
25r green	green "
50r blue	black "
75r carmine	violet "
80r yellow green	green "
100r brown on buff	brown "
150r yellow brown on rose	orange "
200r dark blue on blue	black "
300r dark blue on buff	" "

Postal cards.

10r blue, black surcharge
20r rose " "

NEW FOUNDLAND.—The 3c stamp has now been issued in exactly the same color as the 2c which appeared recently with the portrait of the Prince of Wales.

The present stamp bears the portrait of Victoria Mary of Teck, Duchess of York.

Adhesive stamp.



Perforated 12.
3c orange

NEW ZEALAND.—A new registration envelope has been issued here with a stamp of the value of 3 pence, in the type of the last 3 penny adhesive.

The flap is one the face at the right.

Registratian envelope.



Size 96x148 mm.

3p dark ultramarine

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* has received specimen stamps of three values to be added to the current set in the current type.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

Perforated.

6p yellow brown
2s 6p brown olive
10s dark violet

PONTA DELGADA.—The new values announced for Portugal in our August number have also appeared in this Colony.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

65r gray green
115r salmon on pink
130r brown on buff
180r slate on pinkish

PORTO RICO.—Lieut. W. C. Eaton, a member of the army of invasion of Porto Rico, sends us some interesting information in regard to various stamps used in that island during the current year. He sends us specimens of three stamps, surcharged "Impuesto de Guerra," which are pasted on letters to represent the war tax on correspondence.

It is claimed by some that these stamps should form part of a postage stamp collection, but we cannot agree with this view, as they represent nothing beyond the Internal Revenue tax which is levied for a particular purpose. The fact that such a stamp is required in order that a letter may be forwarded no more establishes a claim for it as a postage stamp than woulda seal placed on a registered letter in countries where unsealed letters cannot be sent by registered mail.

Mr Eaton has also obtained a 1 mil lilac brown, of 1896, surcharged "Habilitado Por 1898-99," and he has heard that other stamps of former issues have suffered the same fate. This surcharge is in red in three lines.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated.

1m lilac brown (1896), red surcharge

QUEENSLAND.—The *Post Office* states that two additional values of the current set, with figures of value in the lower angles, have been issued.

The editor of the *Australian Stamp News* has sent us a sample card which is one of a set of 18 different views referring to the industries of Queensland.

The one sent us shows "Sheep Under a Bottle Tree in Western Queensland," and if the Post Office Department in that country sees fit to amuse itself with that kind of work, we suppose that no objection should be raised by us.

The postal card itself is of a new design and will be illustrated in our next number.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked Crown and Q.

Perforated 12½.

2½p light red
3p olive brown

Postal card.

1½p black, *buff*

ROUMANIA.—It appears that the remaining values of the set of Unpaid Letter stamps have now appeared with the new watermark.

Unpaid Letter stamps.

Watermarked P. R.

Perforated.

5b green 50b green

TIMOR.—The new set has also appeared in this colony.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated.

½a gray
1a orange yellow
2a light green
2½a brown
3a lilac
4a dark green
8a blue
12a rose
13a purple
16a dark blue on blue
24a light brown on buff
31a red lilac on pale lilac
47a blue on rose

TRINIDAD.—As announced some months ago, a special stamp of the value of 2 pence was issued here in July to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island.

Adhesive stamp.



Watermarked Crown and C. C.

Perforated 14.

2p gray lilac, center yellow brown

STATEN ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Branch of the A. P. A.

185th Meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society held August 17th, 1898, at Loescher's Hotel, Stapleton, S. I., N. Y.

Members present: Vice-President R. F. Albrecht in the chair, Messrs. E. R. Carter, Oscar Dejonge, Hugo Kessler, J. W. Sittig, A. Richter and R. S. Lehman. By proxy Messrs. Geo. H. Watson, John W. Scott, D. H. Bacon, Joseph Rich, Henry L. Calman, R.R. Bogert, Aug. Lehman, Jr., Henry Clotz, Clara Albrecht, Chas. Gregory and E. T. Parker. As a visitor, Mr. Fred. H. Hungus.

The meeting was called to order at 8.45 P. M.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

A letter from Branch No. 2 of the A. P. A. was read.

Mr. Richter moved and Mr. Oscar Dejonge seconded that a Committee be appointed by the Chairman to arrange for the entertainment of the members of the A. P. A., participating in the Thirteenth Convention, together with the members of the S. I. P. S., and that this Committee be and hereby is authorized to expend for the purpose a sum not exceeding $100. The vote on this motion resulted in sixteen votes being in favor and one in the negative.

The chairman appointed Messrs. A. Richter, Hugo Kessler and Oscar Dejonge to act as the Entertainment Committee with the Vice-President ex-officio.

The meeting adjourned at 10 P.M., after which exhibition of stamps followed. Next meeting Sept. 21st, 1898.

ROBERT LEHMAN, *Secretary.*

NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The 350th meeting of the organization and 103rd of the Corporation was called to order by the President on Tuesday evening, August 9th. The following members were present Bogert, Bruner, Andreini, Tuttle, Perrin, Holmes, Luff, J. W. Scott, Rich, Gregory, Berlepsch, Klemann, Lehmann, Dr. Hyatt and Williams.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Committee appointed to confer with the L. I. P. S. reported progress.

The rooms of the N. P. S. were duly placed at the disposition of the American Philatelic Association during convention week.

Society adjourned at 10.25 P. M.

O. H. WILLIAMS, *Sec'y pro tem.*

THE COLLECTORS CLUB.

28th meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, August 8, 1898. Vice-President Bruner in the chair.

Called to order at 8.20 P. M.

Present, Messrs. Bruner, Luff, Scott and the Secretary.

The Secretary read several communications, the Treasurer presented his report showing balance in bank of $171.12, and the Chairman of House Committee read his report.

The following applicants were unanimously elected subscribing members of the Club:

F. P. Richardson, Salem, Mass., W. Kelsey Hall, Peterborough, Ont.

Adjourned 8.50 P. M. J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*